We claim:

1. An improved process for the production of Desloratadine which comprises, reacting loratadine with neat alcohol in presence of inorganic base, and isolating the title compound in crystalline form by conventional methods on addition of excess water.
2. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the alcohol used is alkanols of 1 to 10 carbon atoms
3. An improved process as claimed in claim 2 wherein the alkanols of 1 to 10 carbon atoms used are methanol, ethanol, propanol, isopropanol, tert. butyl alcohol, pentanol, hexanol, cycloalkanols such as cyclohexanol; aromatic alcohols such as benzyl alcohol.
4. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the alcohol used is a C_1-C_4 alkanol, preferably methanol.
5. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the amount of alcohol used vary between 1 and 10 (w/v) equivalents calculated on the starting compound loratadine.
6. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the amount of alcohol used is 2-6 (w/v) equivalents, preferably be 4 equivalents.
7. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the inorganic base used is alkali metal hydroxides.
8. An improved process as claimed in claim 7 wherein the alkali metal hydroxide such as sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide are used.
9. An improved process as claimed in claim 7 wherein the alkali metal hydroxides used is sodium hydroxide.
10. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the amount of inorganic base used vary between 0.5 and 1.6 (w/w) equivalents calculated on the starting compound loratadine
11. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein 1-1.6 (w/w)equivalents of base is used
12. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the base used is 1.1 (w/w) equivalents.
13. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the reaction is carried out at a temperature between 60° and 100° C or at respective refluxing temperature, preferably between 80° and 95° C more preferably between 85 to 90°C.

14. An improved process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the amount of water added is 2 to 4 times of the solvent employed.

15. An improved process where in the isolation is effected by filtration.